

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-115 are pending in this application and have been finally rejected. By this amendment, Applicant has canceled claims 53-115 to simplify issues. Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the sequence of requests is presented to the user by screen displays from a group of screen displays comprising a plurality of forms presenting the requests to the user and further wherein the screen displays each having a specified format, the format of at least one form comprising at least one dynamically alterable request and an entry area for responding to the at least one request and wherein the data base comprises a plurality of alternative provisions for the document and wherein the program evaluates the alternative provisions in response to information provided by the user in response to the requests to determine which of the provisions to display in the form of the plurality of forms; and further wherein the document is dynamically altered in response to information provided by the user in response to the sequence of requests to modify the document to present the information provided by the user.

The amended limitations in amended claim 1 were present in claims 7, 10, 47 and 49 of the original claims. Claims 7, 10, 47 and 49 have also been canceled.

The Examiner has rejected these claims based upon Mukherjee and "Hot Docs" in combination with Schoolcraft, Porter and Dipaolo et al. See pages 2-6, 15, 16, 35-36 and 37 of the Office Action.

Applicant has reviewed the references that the Examiner has applied. Applicant submits that there is no teaching or suggestion in the references cited and applied by the Examiner of the invention now claimed wherein the database comprises a plurality of alternative provisions for the document and wherein the program evaluates the alternative provisions in response to information provided by the user in response to the requests to determine which of the provisions to display in a form of the plurality of forms, and wherein the document is dynamically altered in response to information provided by the user in response to the sequence of requests to modify the document to present the information provided by the user.

The Examiner concedes that the Mukherjee reference does not teach "that the document is dynamically altered in response to information provided by the user in response to the sequence of requests to modify the document to present the information provided by the user."

See the rejection of claim 49 on page 37. The Examiner, however, points to the Dipaolo et al. reference, in particular, col. 6, lines 39-51 for the teaching of propagating changes necessitated by the change in one form field to fields through a document. However, the Dipaolo et al. reference is merely a data entry system. That is, it provides for the entry of data into forms, for example, as shown in Fig. 2 of Dipaolo et al. Dipaolo et al. discusses that changes will propagate throughout fields in the form. However, Dipaolo et al. does not teach or suggest a system which allows for dynamically altering a document, as opposed to merely filling in forms, such as the system of the present invention, wherein the program both evaluates alternative provisions in response to the information provided by the user in response to the requests to determine which of the provisions to display in a form of the plurality of forms and wherein the program dynamically alters the document in response to the information provided by the user in response to the sequence of requests to modify the document to present the information provided by the user. In DiPaolo et al., forms are populated by the data entered by the user, and the changes are propagated in the form, but there is no teaching or suggestion that a document is dynamically altered in response to the sequence of requests and that alternative provisions are evaluated for selection. The examiner has pointed to various parts of no less than five references to reject the claims, but there is no teaching or suggestion in the cited references, with all due respect, of a system that includes all the features now claimed, including the ability to evaluate and selected alternative provisions and dynamically alter the document in response to the entered information.

It is submitted that the combination of the Mukherjee, Hot Docs, Schoolcraft, Porter and Dipaolo references, does not teach or suggest a system which allows for the evaluation of alternative provisions and selection of an alternative provision in response to information provided by the user and dynamic alteration of the document, as opposed to merely the data entry called for by the Dipaolo reference.

Applicant submits that the cited art does not teach or suggest the invention as reflected by the amended claims. Applicant has reduced the number of claims in this application in order to simplify the issues. Applicant further submits that the amendments do not present any new issues since the amendments reflect the substance of original ones of the already examined dependent claims.

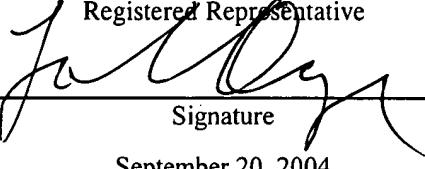
A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned in order to resolve any outstanding issues.

A Notice of Appeal has been filed concurrently herewith.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 20, 2004:

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Name of applicant, assignee or
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Signature

September 20, 2004

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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